RAWC Reading Apprentice Writing Connections

Avon Middle School North is Making it Happen!





WE ARE Avon Middle School North located in Avon, IN. Avon Community School Corporation is located in the suburbs of Indianapolis and has a student population of 9,236. Our school corporation ethnicity for the 2015-2016 school year is White 70.4%, Black 11.2%, Hispanic 8.4%, Multiracial 5.4%, Asian 4.5%, Native American 0%, and Hawaiian or Pacific Islander 0.1%. The corporation's free and reduce enrollment is 27%.

OUR STUDENTS & FAMILIES

At Avon Middle School North our student population is:

White 72.7%, Black 9.1%, Hispanic 8.1%, Multiracial 6.1%, Asian 3.6%, and American Indian .3% Our middle school free and reduce enrollment is 27%.

OUR TEACHERS

Avon Middle School North has 36 teachers made up of academic, special education, and encore (elective) teachers. There are a total of 4 math, 4 language arts, 4 science, 4 social studies, 1 math/science, 1 language arts/social studies, 5 special education, 1 instructional coach, and 12 encore teachers (Spanish, Japanese, physical education, health, family consumer science, art, industrial tech, computer applications, band, music, and orchestra). In addition, we have an ELL instructional assistance, 2 counselors, 1 dean of students, 1 assistant principal, and 1 principal.

OUR PROMISING PRACTICE

RAWC (Reading Apprentice Writing Connections) is a research–based professional learning model and instructional framework to improve student literacy.

RAWC helps students develop a repertoire of problem-solving strategies for overcoming obstacles and deepening comprehension of texts across academic disciplines. This is done by strategic reading of a broad range of high quality texts and using the textual evidence to support reasoning and writing. RAWC's framework revolves around the metacognitive conversation of the social, personal, cognitive, and knowledge-building dimension.

OUR STEPS

Avon Middle School North has five teachers involved in RAWC (four 8th grade teachers, and 1 instructional coach). Our four 8th grade teachers include one language arts, one science, and two social studies. All five teachers receive seven full days of training over the course of a year (five summer full day training sessions and two full day training sessions during the school year). In addition to the full day trainings, the teachers meet once a month during the school year to discuss ideas, challenges, and how the strategies are working in the classroom with the students. During the school year, each academic subject teacher meets seven times for PLC's with other teachers across the United States that take place after school via blackboard or Google hangout.

IN OUR OWN WORDS

Our RAWC teachers believe - "RAWC has allowed our students to become actively engaged readers. The students are becoming more aware of their metacognitive thinking (thinking about their thinking)."